

Vendor Questions for Simulators

1. Are the training modes Individual, Multiplayer, or team based?
2. What are the maximum and minimum numbers of participants?
3. Does the technology support co-located as well as geographically separate participants?
4. What are the networking requirements (i.e. internet, intranet, etc.)?
5. What are the interactions between players?
6. What is the level of participant interactivity?

7. What disciplines and specialties does the technology address? How does the technology handle multiple disciplines (purchasers should consider relative weighting for multi-discipline technologies)? What missions does the system support (i.e. Fire, EMS, Law Enforcement, SWAT, Incident Commander)? - See definition of players per NFPA 472 at the end of this document.
8. What is the ability of the purchasing organization to configure the technology to its requirements?
9. Can the technology be customized? If yes, what is the degree of vendor support required for customization?
10. Do customization capabilities allow for the ability to modify the MS&S for specific uses based on local threats/conditions/issues?
11. What is the degree of interoperability with other systems and technologies? *A key concern for the use of MS&S is whether a given model/simulation is compatible with other existing technology systems. For instance, can a 3-dimensional CAD drawing be used in a specific simulation program designed with a different software package. This makes it possible to integrate different platforms without the need for re-engineering or custom development.*
12. What technology platforms are required and supported? (desktop, laptop, handheld, other portable devices)

13. What is the degree of compliance with technical and functional standards (i.e. Shareable Content Object Reference Model conformance and compliance)?
14. How does the technology incorporate national priorities/target capabilities for homeland security?
15. What are the intellectual property and open source considerations for this technology?
16. How is student training and registration data protected from unauthorized disclosure?
17. How does the MS&S track student performance (Learning Management System, After Action Review)?
18. What student performance data does the technology capture/track?
19. How can student performance data be manipulated?

20. How is training data protected (operational security)?

21. What is the number of personnel required to operate the technology?

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23. What is the number of instructor/controllers recommended to run the program?

24. What is the number of in-house technical support staff recommended to run the program?

25. How long does it take to become proficient in the initial use of the MS&S technology?

26. How long does it take to become proficient in the instructor/controller use of the technology?

27. What is the availability of technical support for operation (reach-back support)?
28. What is the total cost of ownership including procurement cost (including licensing model – concurrent, non-concurrent users), operation, technical support and maintenance, sustainment, computer requirements and peripheral specifications, and customization?
29. Can the technology be purchased iteratively, in modular fashion?

NFPA 472 / 2013 Edition

Standard for Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Incidents

Awareness Level Personnel. (29 CFR 1910.120: First Responder at the Awareness Level) Personnel who, in the course of their normal duties, could encounter an emergency involving hazardous materials/weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and who are expected to recognize the presence of the hazardous materials/weapons of mass destruction (WMD), protect themselves, call for trained personnel, and secure the scene.

Operations Level Responders. Persons who respond to hazardous materials/weapons of mass destruction (WMD) incidents for the purpose of implementing or supporting actions to protect nearby persons, the environment, or property from the effects of the release.

Mission-Specific Competencies. The knowledge, skills, and judgment needed by operations level responders who have completed the operations level competencies and who are designated by the authority having jurisdiction to perform mission-specific tasks, such as decontamination, victim/hostage rescue and recovery, evidence preservation, and sampling.

Hazardous Materials Technician. Person who responds to hazardous materials/weapons of mass destruction (WMD) incidents using a risk-based response process by which they analyze a problem involving hazardous materials/weapons of mass destruction (WMD), select applicable decontamination procedures, and control a release using specialized protective clothing and control equipment.